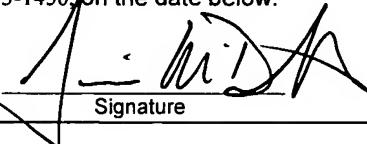




CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date below:

1/7/2004  
Date

  
Signature

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sabino Iacocca

Serial No.: 10/723,295

Filed: November 26, 2003

For: CENTRIFUGAL PUMP FOR  
ELECTRICAL HOUSEHOLD  
APPLIANCE OR THE LIKE

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: 10823.0030.NPUS00

Confirmation No.: Unknown

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED UNDER 1.97(B)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

\* \* \*

In order for an applicant for a patent or for a reissue of a patent to have an information disclosure statement in compliance with § 1.98 considered by the Office during the pendency of the application, the information disclosure statement must satisfy one of paragraph (b), (c), or (d) of this section. [37 CFR § 1.97(a)]

\* \* \*

As provided by 37 CFR 1.97(b), this information disclosure statement is believed to be timely filed for consideration by the Office because it has been filed by the applicant:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an inter-national application;
- (3) Before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or
- (4) Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

If for some reason a first Office Action has issued on the above application, the undersigned representative requests that this Information Disclosure Statement be accepted under 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2), and the undersigned authorizes the charging of the fee due as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) to Deposit Account 01-2508/10823.0030.NPUS00. The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application. The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508/10823.0030.NPUS00.

\* \* \*

This information disclosure statement is being filed in accordance with section 37 CFR § 1.97 and shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made. [37 CFR § 1.97(g)]

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b). [37 CFR § 1.97(h)]

\* \* \*

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98 (a)(1), this information disclosure statement filed under 37 CFR § 1.97 includes (1) a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office on the accompanying PTO-FORM 1449.

Copies of the listed documents are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98 (a)(2), legible copies of : (i) each U.S. patent application and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

\* \* \*

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98 (3), this information disclosure statement includes:

- (i) a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent, publication, or other information listed that is not in the English language. The concise explanation may be either separate from the specification or incorporated therein;
- (ii) A copy of the translation if a written English-language translation of a non-English-language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody, or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in § 1.56(c).

\* \* \*

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98 (b), (1) each U.S. patent (if any) listed in the PTO FORM 1449 for this information disclosure statement is identified by inventor, patent number, and issue date. (2) Each U.S. patent application publication (if any) listed in the PTO FORM 1449 is identified by applicant, patent application publication number, and publication date. (3) Each U.S. application (if any) listed in the PTO FORM 1449 is identified by inventor, application number, and filing date. (4) Each foreign patent or published foreign patent application (if any) listed in the PTO FORM 1449 is identified by the country or patent office

which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application. (5) Each publication (if any) listed in the PTO FORM 1449 is identified by author (if any), title, relevant pages of the publication, date and place of publication.

\* \* \*

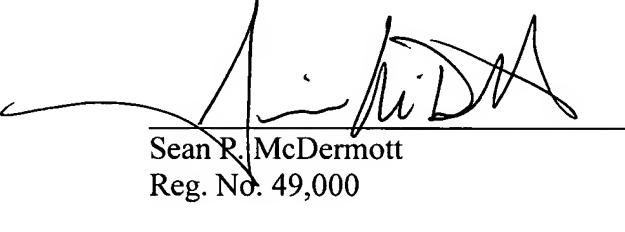
The undersigned representative requests that an initialed copy of the enclosed FORM 1449 be entered into the application file wrapper and returned to the undersigned with the next communication from the Office.

\* \* \*

To facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/7/2004

  
Sean R. McDermott  
Reg. No. 49,000

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP  
750 Bering Drive  
Houston, TX 77057  
Telephone: (713) 268-1357

Form PTO-1449 (modified)

JAN 12 2004

PATENTS & TRADEMARKS  
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICEAtty. Docket No.  
10823.0030.NPUS00Serial No.  
10/723,295List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date:  
11-26-2003Group:  
UnknownU.S. Patent Documents  
See Page 1Foreign Patent Documents  
See Page 1Other Art  
See Page 1**U.S. Patent Documents**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date of App.
	A1						

**U.S. Patent Application Publications**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Publication Number	Date	Applicant	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date of App.
	A2						

**U.S. Patent Applications**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Application Number	Filing Date	Inventor	Art Unit	Status	Examiner
	A3						

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes/No
	B1	EP 0207430	26.02.92	EPO	F04D	13/06	N/A
	B2	EP 0287984	13.10.93	EPO	F04D	13/06	N/A

**Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Citation
	C1	

**EXAMINER:****DATE CONSIDERED:**

EXAMINER: INITIAL IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.

*INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT — PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)*